

**F. GOOD CAUSE FOR NOT PARTICIPATING - E&T PARTICIPANTS****WAC 388-444-0050 Good cause for failure to register for work or for not participating in the FS E&T program.**

- (1) A nonexempt client may have good cause for refusing or failing to register for work or to participate in the FS E&T program.
- (2) Good cause reasons include, but are not limited to:
  - (a) Illness of the client;
  - (b) Illness of another household member requiring the help of the client;
  - (c) A household emergency;
  - (d) The unavailability of transportation; or
  - (e) Lack of adequate dependent care for children six through twelve years of age.
- (3) A client who is determined by the department to lack good cause for failing or refusing to participate in FS E&T is disqualified and is not eligible to receive food assistance.

**WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES**

When you are informed that a non-exempt food assistance client has not complied with employment and training participation requirements:

**For E&T Participants**

1. Begin the good cause process no later than 10 calendar days from the date you are notified on noncompliance, by sending a letter to the client. The letter must include:
  - a. A description of the non-compliance; and
  - b. The date by which the client must contact the worker to provide good cause

for non-compliance. (This date should not exceed 10 calendar days from the date the notice is sent.)

**Note:** If the client does not respond within 10 calendar days, determine that good cause does not exist. Refer to step 3. below.

2. Determine good cause for clients not participating with the FS E&T program.
3. When good cause does not exist the client must be disqualified. See Section G, Disqualification.
4. Inform clients disqualified for failure to participate with the FS E&T program how they may regain eligibility for food assistance.
5. Volunteers who fail to participate are not disqualified.

**For ABAWDs**

1. A non-participating ABAWD uses a month of the 3 month eligibility. There is no Good Cause determination.
2. Record non-qualifying work months as described in Section E, ABAWDs.